CHERAMAN PARAMBA—WORKS BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

109. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether any amount was spent or proposed to be spent in 1115 for the excavation, repair or preservation of Cheraman *Paramba*, in Cranganur Taluk by the Department of Archaeology ;

(*b*) if so, the amount already spent and proposed to be spent in 1115 ;

(*c*) what is the nature of work for which the amount was spent ;

(*d*) was the work entrusted on contract; if so, to whom ; if not, who executed the work ;

(*e*) the amount spent as wages for labourers; whether a muster-roll was kept; if so, by whom;

(*f*) whether the roll has at any time been checked with reference to the actual number of workers employed;

(*g*) whether an estimate was prepared for the work; if so, the main items of expenditure included in the estimate ?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) A sum of Rs. 178—8—0 has been spent so far for digging experimental trenches at Cheraman *Paramba*.

(*b*) The amount spent in 1115 is Rs. 178—8—0. No further amount is proposed to be spent during the year.

(*c*) Earth work. Experimental operations by digging long trenches up to a depth of 10 to 12 feet.

(*d*) No. The work was executed departmentally.

(*e*) Rs. 178—8—0. A muster-roll was kept by the Government Archaeologist.

(*f*) Yes. Almost on all days.

(*g*) No estimate was prepared for the work. Ordinary cooly charges were the only item of expenditure incurred.

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Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: May I know, Sir, what was the maximum expenditure which was sanctioned by the Government for this work?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: I have no information just now. I want notice.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur)*: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any idea of completing this excavation?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Not now. Anyhow, there is no proposal at present.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura)*: Has anything of archæological interest been found there?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Some images were found.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Are they of Hindu Gods or Christian Gods?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: ഒരു കെട്ടിടത്തിന്റെ ഫൊണ്ടേഷൻ കണ്ടിട്ടില്ല?

Mr. President: It is intended to start the excavation, after the rainy season is over.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any rough estimate of the work proposed to be done by the Archæologist was submitted to the Government?

Mr. President: The very nature of the work itself is not a thing for estimate.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: May I know, Sir, whether any control or supervision over the work of those who were responsible for the work of excavation was made by any officer of the Government other than the Archaeologist?

Mr. President: If the Government Archaeologist cannot be trusted to be in charge of a work costing Rs. 178, then the Government must have a set of supervising officers to look after every item of expenditure incurred by the heads of departments, which it will be impossible for the Government to do.

T. A. —GOVERNMENT ARCHAEOLOGIST

110. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total amount claimed by the Government Archaeologist as Travelling allowance in the first 10 months of 1115;

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